comparison competition process. If the offer of any commercial source is lower than the agency commercial activity, the in-house agency commercial activity should not be selected, even if another commercial source is the best value offeror, unless the agency commercial activity is the best value source.

6. Agency commercial activities are regularly subjected to competition to ensure that the taxpayer is getting the best value.

During the course of our hearings on this legislation, it became abundantly clear that there are certain activities that the Federal government has performed in-house which can and should be converted to the private sector. Areas such as architecture, engineering, auctions, surveying and mapping, laboratory testing, information technology, and laundry services have no place in government. These activities should be converted to performance by the private sector.

There are other activities in which a public-private competition should be conducted to determine which provider can deliver the best value to the taxpayer. Examples include base and facility operation and campgrounds.

Section 2(d) of the legislation requires the head of an agency to review the activities on its list of commercial activities ''within a reasonable time.'' Unfortunately, OMB opposed a legislative timetable for conducting these reviews. As a result of the compromise language on this matter, it will be incumbent on OMB to make certain these reviews are indeed conducted in a reasonable time frame. It is the intent of Congress in enacting this legislation that at the Department of Defense, agency commercial activities will be reviewed and competed within seven years. For the civilian agencies, it is the intent of Congress that such activities be reviewed before five years. I urge OMB to exercise strong oversight to assure timely implementation of this requirement by the agencies.

This provision also requires that agencies use a ''competitive process'' to select the course of goods or services. This term has the same meaning as ''competitive procedure'' as defined in Federal law (10 U.S.C. 2302(2) and 41 U.S.C. 259(b)). To the extent that a government agency competes for work under this section of the bill, the government agency will be treated as any other contractor or offeror in order to assure that the competition is conducted on a level playing field.

Another key decision which must be made is the determination of what is inherently governmental. The legislation continues current policy, embodied in OFPP Policy Letter 92–1. There will be certain agency commercial activities that may have components which are both inherently governmental and commercial in nature. Such activities should be segmented, so that the commercial activity can be studied for competition.

For example, one important agency function deals with the disposal of surplus government property. The Committee on Government Reform and Oversight is intimately familiar with such actions, due to its jurisdiction over the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act.

While an agency's decision of whether or not to dispose of excess, surplus and seized property is inherently governmental, the process of actually disposing of excess, surplus and seized property is not an inherently governmental function and, therefore, this activity should be listed on the commercial inventory under this legislation. There will be situations where disposal of property is an inherently governmental function, such as the disposal of certain surplus naval vessels and other weapons and weapon systems. But generally, such functions are commercial in nature, since the property disposal process generally is not so intimately connected with the public interest as to require performance by Federal employees. Therefore, Congress intends that property disposal would normally be conducted by contracting with commercial sources. The utilization of experienced, bonded commercial property disposal firms will assist the government to meet that goal, using the same structures and incentives as the private sector in disposing of excess, surplus and seized property. These practices are designed to maximize the commercial value of this property, while government practices and incentives are primarily designed to dispose of inventory as quickly as possible rather than maximizing the return on the dollar. That is the goal of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time to pass this legislation. It is long overdue. So do all of your constituents a favor and vote for S. 314.

Executive Office of the President—Office of Management and Budget, Oct. 2, 1998

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

S. 314—FEDERAL ACTIVITIES INVENTORY REFORM ACT

(Thomas (R) WY and 16 cosponsors)

The Administration has no objection to S. 314, the ''Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (FAIR).'' The Act would reinforce efforts to improve the identification and review of non-inherently governmental activities. The bill permits the agencies to assess which functions should be submitted to competition with the private sector and allows the Government to choose the source—public or private—which is the most cost effective and in the best interests of the taxpayer. This bill is consistent with Administration efforts to reform Federal procurement and ensure that taxpayers receive the best value.

The Administration's policy is to promote competition to achieve the best deal for the taxpayer. Competition is an integral part of the Administration's overall reinvention and management improvement effort. The inventories of commercial activities required by the FAIR Act will help senior agency managers and OMB to identify opportunities not only for competition, but also other reinvention opportunities, including: re-engineering, organizational restructuring, termination decisions, and the possibility of applying new technologies, such as electronic commerce.

HONORING SENATOR JOHN GLENN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO
HON. STEVE C. LaTOURETTE
OF OHIO
HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER
OF OHIO
HON. SHERROD BROWN
OF OHIO
HON. STEVE CHABOT
OF OHIO
HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR
OF OHIO
HON. TONY P. HALL
OF OHIO
HON. DAVID L. HOBSON
OF OHIO
HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
HON. JOHN R. KASICH
OF OHIO
HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY
OF OHIO
HON. ROB PORTMAN
OF OHIO
HON. DEBORAH PRYCE
OF OHIO
HON. RALPH REGULA
OF OHIO
HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER
OF OHIO
HON. LOUIS STOKES
OF OHIO
HON. TED STRICKLAND
OF OHIO
HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I rise today to pay tribute to an American and Ohio hero. More than 35 years ago, JOHN GLENN made history as the first American to orbit the earth. On October 29, he will once again make history as the oldest man to travel into space. On behalf of the people of Ohio and the country, along with the rest of the members of the Ohio delegation, I would like to thank Senator GLENN for his dedicated service to our country and wish him the best of luck on his upcoming mission.

JOHN HERSCHEL GLENN, JR., is a true American hero. He has served his country honorably in the Marine Corps, in the U.S. Space Program and as a member of the United States Senate. On February 20, 1962, he became a national figure after becoming the first American to orbit the earth. Senator GLENN, a native of Ohio, has represented the working families of Ohio as their Senator since 1974. His upcoming shuttle mission and retirement at the end of this Congress will punctuate the

end of a remarkable stretch of public service that will leave an indelible mark on our society.

October 29, 1998, marks a triumphant day for our nation when Senator GLENN returns to space aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery. Nearly 37 years after his initial trip into space, he will again represent his country and our state as a member of Discovery Mission STS–95. As he prepares for his upcoming mission, the Members of the Ohio delegation wish salute to the Senator from Ohio. As he prepares for the upcoming mission, we salute the Senator and native of New Concord, Ohio. Godspeed, JOHN GLENN.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL MARCELLINO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Marcellino. Michael Marcellino served as a United States Army combat correspondent in the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1968. After his honorable discharge from the service, he worked for 13 years as a newspaper reporter in Northeast Ohio with the Painesville Telegraph and the Sun Newspapers.

While at Sun Newspapers, Marcellino received two national awards for excellence in reporting—the Suburban Newspapers of America Award for Investigative Journalism and the national Newspaper Association's Community Service Award. His reporting included Veterans' affairs, government and politics.

From 1983–1987, Marcellino served on the Cleveland staff of Congressman Louis Stokes. As Community Relations Specialist, his work included advocacy for community, veterans and human rights issues. He was appointed Press Secretary to Mayor-elect Michael R. White in 1989. During nearly nine years with the White Administration, Marcellino also served as Liaison for Veterans and Military Affairs to Mayor White and Manager of Marketing for the City of Cleveland's Department of Public Utilities.

Marcellino is presently a writer and public relations consultant. He is a founding board member of the Greater Cleveland Veterans Business Resource Council and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

He attended Cleveland and Parma Public Schools and Wake Forest University. Marcellino and his wife, Laurie, a restaurant owner, have three children, Sean, Rachael, and Ari.

FISHERIES STOCK ENHANCEMENT

HON. DAN MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a leader in the field of fisheries stock enhancement, Mote Marine Laboratories was highlighted recently in an article from Fly Fishing in Saltwater magazine. Mote Marine is located in Sarasota, Florida which is in the 13th District of Florida and provides innumerable benefits to our environment and my constituents. I am pleased therefore to enter this article recognizing Mote Marine's importance into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From Fly Fishing in Saltwater, Sept./Oct. 1998]

SNOOK FOR THE MASSES—MARINE FISHERIES STOCK ENHANCEMENT MAY BE IN OUR FUTURE

(By Don Phillips)

On January 10, 1998, Steve Serfling and Todd Hershfield went fishing for snook in Sarasota Bay, Florida. In two hours they caught and released four snook on the fly.

That was no surprise because they were fishing an area where the Mote Marine Laboratory had earlier released small snook as part of an experimental stock-enhancement program. Serfling is director of Mote's aquaculture program and Hershfield works in the laboratory and their January trip was one of four the two had made to find out how the stocked snook were integrating with the natural population. Nice work if you can get it!

As of February this year, the Mote Laboratory had stocked 12,000 juvenile snook in eight different areas of Sarasota Bay, the Braden River, and several areas of Tampa Bay. The results have been most encouraging. Of 18 snook caught during Todd and Hershfield's four trips, half were from Mote's Aquaculture facility (their origin was readily determined by a miniature red marker implanted in the snook shortly before their release).

The laboratory and its partner, Florida's Department of Environmental Protection, are delighted. The stocked fish seem to have integrated well into the natural population and their growth, appearance, health, and behavior mirrors that of their wild cousins.

Actually, that shouldn't be too surprising; the stocked snook were raised from eggs and milt removed from wild snook netted from and released back into the same areas.

When I heard about the stocking program I made arrangements to visit Mote's acquaculture facility on City Island in Sarasota to find out more. Previous experience with freshwater and anadromous fish stocking programs had not left me exactly impressed with this method of fisheries enhancement. ''Put-and-take'' fishing mentality, genetic deterioration, diseases, and pollution are just some of the problems associated with hatchery programs. So it was with a fair amount of skepticism that I planned my visit.

But after touring the facility with Serfling I was impressed with the technical sophistication of Mote's approach. The lab has paid close attention to every detail of the snook's early life in an effort to duplicate its natural environment.

''We start with wild eggs and milt,'' Serfling said. ''The fertilized eggs hatch into larvae that develop over a two-day period on their own yoke sacs. During these two days they develop eyes, mouths, and a digestive system, so they can feed. Then the larvae are fed microalgae and zooplankton cultured in our own hatchery, duplicating their natural food at this stage in their life.

''Pellet feeding begins after about four weeks, at the point when the fingerlings require larger food sizes Cannibalism is a major problem with carnivorous fish like snook, because they instinctively prefer to each fish from day 20 onward. But they cannot be size-graded and separated to reduce cannibalism until around day 40, because the larvae and fry stages are too delicate to handle.

''A few days before stocking the snook are also fed live minnows, to reinforce their natural instinct to chase and cat swimming prey. Their immediate predatory behavior suggests that this instinct is alive and well.''

The heart of the aquaculture facility is a closed-cycle water system that controls water salinity, temperature, pH, oxygen content, and turbidity. Waste products are treated and recycled. Only a very small amount of fresh water or filtered seawater is added weekly to replenish losses and adjust salinity.

This closed-cycle approach insulates the system from undesirable environmental phenomena such as red tide or periods of exceedingly cold temperature, significantly increasing survival of the young snook.

The aquaculture facility also uses cylindrically shaped tanks to minimize collision trauma among the fish. When the fish are large enough, size grading is done periodically to minimize cannibalism.

''We have now progressed to the point where 10 percent of our larvae survive to the 5- or 6-inch size range in six months,'' Serfling said, ''This is quite impressive when compared with an equivalent 0.0005 percent rate for wild fish under favorable environmental conditions.'' The survival percentage is expected to increase even more as the laboratory learns more about young snook.

Mote also is raising Gulf and short-nosed sturgeon and has plans to include pompano, flounder and snapper in its program. Funding is through the William R. Mote Scientific Foundation.

After touring the facility I met with Dr. Ken Leber, Mote's senior scientist and director of fisheries and aquaculture research, and Dr. John Miller, professor of fisheries and oceanography at North Carolina State University who is a visiting scientist at the Mote Laboratory. Both were enthusiastic about the stocking program, but both also were candid about the hurdles still to be overcome.

Leber said the laboratory is prepared to continue the program up to and including full-scale hatchery releases, if appropriate federal and state support is obtained. But he added that a lot of research is still needed to understand the many variables of stock enhancement and to determine its economic viability as a fishery management tool.

''What, when, and where to stock are questions needing definitive answers,'' he said. For example, economic considerations might suggest stocking lots of fingerlings, but high initial predation rates could make this approach penny-wise and pound-foolish.

Similarly, stocking excessive numbers of fish could upset the balance of local ecosystems by adding too many predators or displacing wild stocks.

Determining the best season for stocking also is important so new residents have the best chance for acclimatization and survival.

Yet another consideration is finding the best places for stocking. Those places must provide immediate sanctuary and food. Thermal refuges may be particularly important to minimize mortality due to high or low water temperatures.

Leber and his staff are studying these questions by assessing current populations, performing stocking experiments, then evaluating the new populations.

Similar efforts are going on elsewhere around the world, with researchers sharing the results. Recently, Mote joined forces with research activities in Hawaii, Mississippi, and Florida (the Florida Marine Fisheries Research Institute) to address stock enhancement on a large scale. This multi-million dollar effort, sponsored by the federal government, is likely to draw in other research activities, especially from the Gulf States.

''Since the 1950s, the focus of marine fisheries management has concentrated on